

INTRODUCTION OF THE INNOVATIVE STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE ACT (ISIA) OF 2015

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, a growing threat to water quality throughout the United States (U.S.) is polluted stormwater runoff, flooding, and sewer overflow from highly urbanized areas flowing into surface waters without being treated. This is especially true for Maryland with the Chesapeake Bay and several of its tributaries, including the Anacostia, Patuxent, Potomac, and Severn Rivers that flow through the Fourth Congressional District.

Innovative stormwater solutions, such as permeable pavement, natural drainage swales, and green roofs offer an effective alternative to conventional stormwater infrastructure that has both the flexibility and economic viability to address the challenges of polluted runoff, flooding, and sewer overflows. Unlike traditional stormwater infrastructure, this approach protects, restores, and replicates the natural hydrology of the landscape. Many of these innovative infrastructure practices are more economical, increase property values, and promote jobs to design and implement them.

This week Senator TOM UDALL (D-NM) and I are proud to reintroduce the Innovative Stormwater Infrastructure Act (ISIA) of 2015 to help stem this growing crisis in clean water management issues. The bill would:

Promote the use of innovative stormwater solutions within the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Water and related programs and provide technical assistance to states, local governments, and the private sector;

Invest in planning, development, and implementation grants for community-based stormwater control projects;

Establish up to five Centers of Excellence in various regions of the U.S. that would conduct research, develop recommendations, and provide training and technical assistance for implementing management practices for stormwater control and management; and

Promote public-private partnerships to create jobs in the design and construction of innovative stormwater control infrastructure.

Our legislation provides an innovative, environmental, and economically cost-effective approach to water management strategies that improve water quality throughout the nation while creating good-paying jobs for the future. The goals are to:

Improve our nation's ability to manage clean water resources, including drinking water;

Increase research and development of innovative green infrastructure techniques;

Create jobs across diverse sectors, such as plumbing, landscaping and engineering;

Save taxpayer money by reducing the amount of water entering treatment plants, keeping energy costs low and prolonging the life of existing conventional water infrastructure; and

Provide environmental and economic benefits to communities, including reduced flooding and energy use, as well as increased community greenspace and property values.

The Innovative Stormwater Infrastructure Act has received broad support from water

and environmental organizations, including the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, American Rivers, the American Society of Landscape Architects, Natural Resources Defense Council and the Water Environment Federation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF CONGRESSMAN BOB KASTENMEIER

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and celebrate the accomplishments of our friend and former colleague, Congressman Bob Kastenmeier, who passed away last week at the age of 91. Congressman Kastenmeier came to Congress in 1959 and was a loyal public servant, honorably representing Wisconsin's 2nd Congressional District for 32 years.

His contribution to the House of Representatives, specifically the House Judiciary Committee, left a huge mark on the State of Wisconsin and the nation.

Congressman Kastenmeier was a lifelong public servant. Prior to being elected to Congress, he served the state of Wisconsin as a Justice of the Peace for Jefferson and Dodge Counties. He was also a member of the United States Army during World War II where he rose to the rank of first lieutenant. However, even though he was willing to fight for the freedom and security of our country, Congressman Kastenmeier understood the horrors of war and courageously took a firm stance against the Vietnam War and the invasion of U.S. military troops in Iraq.

During one of the country's darkest periods, Congressman Kastenmeier was a vocal supporter of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and 1968 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. He fought tirelessly to ensure the equality of all Americans and he led by example through his ability to successfully work with elected officials of all races, genders and political persuasions.

For twenty years, he was the lead Democrat of the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Administration of Justice. He authored many important copyright law reforms during that time and was a key sponsor of the Copyright Act of 1976, which remains the foundation of the nation's copyright law. He also led the United States into the community of nations through adherence to the Berne Convention. While a Member of the Judiciary Committee he was also involved in the impeachment hearings for Harry E. Claiborne, a judge for the United States District Court for Nevada, and President Nixon.

Congressman Kastenmeier was a principled and progressive legislator who did not seek attention and was known to vote his conscience. However, his contributions have been recognized nationwide. The United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin honored our great colleague by naming the courthouse the "Robert W. Kastenmeier United States Courthouse."

Congressman Kastenmeier will be greatly missed, but he has left a legacy that will live

forever. I am proud to have served with him and we are eternally grateful for his dedication, knowledge, and integrity. I am also proud that he was my friend.

Our condolences go out to his family and friends around the world.

HONORING PASTOR KENNY FOREMAN

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of a distinguished member of my community, and my friend, Pastor Kenny Foreman, upon his 85th birthday, as well as in celebration of the 50th anniversary of his church, Cathedral of Faith. I have had the privilege of knowing Pastor Foreman for many years, and I can personally attest to his lasting legacy of achievement through selfless ministry. His is the epitome of a life dedicated to serving others.

Pastor Kenny Foreman and his beloved wife, Shirley, are leaders and founders of the Cathedral of Faith, one of the most prominent Churches in Santa Clara County. Pastor Foreman's life story is truly one of faith and commitment to his beliefs and his community. Pastor Foreman has been in ministry for over 60 years and has served as pastor of the Cathedral of Faith in San Jose, California for over 35 years.

Born the youngest of three children to Hansel and Mabel Foreman in Crowley, Louisiana, he began traveling the United States full time as an evangelist minister by the age of seventeen. In 1953, Kenny met Shirley, the daughter of Dr. & Mrs. Lowry of Trinity Church in Oakland, California. Pastor Foreman and Shirley Lowry wed in 1957, and ever since have committed their lives to ministry. As newlyweds, Kenny and Shirley Foreman traveled to Kansas City, Missouri in response to their calling and vision to establish a church. Kenny and Shirley spent their honeymoon converting an old theater into a place of worship. Pastor Kenny preached and played the guitar while Shirley played the organ, accordion, and piano. Later, they would be joined by their two sons, Ken and Kurt, who would also become active members of the Cathedral of Faith.

Their work with the Calvary Temple in Louisiana grew to serve a congregation of more than 2,000 persons, becoming one of the largest charismatic churches in the nation.

In 1965, Kenny, Shirley and their two sons, Ken and Kurt, were invited to San Jose, California to conduct a crusade and eventually lead the Friendly Bible Church. Immediately after becoming Pastor of Friendly Bible Church, Pastor Kenny began producing a weekly, half-hour television program entitled, "Kenny Foreman Presents Abundant Living." It was one of the first religious programs in the San Francisco Bay Area and was eventually nationally syndicated. Today, Kenny Foreman is the only local minister and programmer who has remained on the air for over 40 years. Throughout these years, Pastor Foreman has never received any income for his television ministry, and all financial support that his congregation had received was funneled back into the operations of the ministry.

It soon became evident from the growth of the congregation that a church would have to be built. Thus, in 1976, fourteen acres of property were purchased in San Jose, California to house what is now the Cathedral of Faith. It would be a sanctuary that would seat nearly 3,000 people and was conceived in Pastor Foreman's spirit. Eventually, the grand opening of the Cathedral of Faith was celebrated on March 15, 1981. On January 1, 1982, the Cathedral of Faith became the home of The Religious Channel: 24 hours of Christian programming on Gill Cable, the largest cable company in the nation at that time.

The Church has never stopped growing. Even after all these years, Outreach Magazine has named Cathedral of Faith as one of the fastest growing and largest churches in America.

Pastor Foreman and Cathedral of Faith have had an amazing record of community involvement. The work of the church has exploded into over seventy active ministries, including, among many other community outreach programs, "Reaching Out," a food assistance program that operates from a 16,000 foot distribution complex serving 50,000 families annually and providing food for over 200,000 people. The California Department of Agriculture has recognized Reaching Out as one of the most efficient food programs in the state.

The church has also created a program called "California Youth Outreach" in order to meet the needs of young men and women that had fallen prey to gangs and drugs; it also serves on the Mayor's gang task force. I recall fondly working with Kenny in the early 1980s as their successful efforts were underway to grow these important services. The Cathedral of Faith also provides child care, early childhood education services, a family life center, a sponsorship program for children in Mozambique, an addiction recovery program, and even a university preparatory academy to prepare a diverse population of 7th–12th grade students in the central San Jose areas and surrounding neighborhoods to enter and excel in the best colleges and universities in the nation.

Kenny has never forgotten his own humble roots, and his life has been filled with joyful, generous, forgiving, and loving service. It is an honor to call Pastor Kenny Foreman a friend, and it is my privilege to honor him and his wife, Shirley, as significant persons in the 19th Congressional District. I would like to take the occasion of Pastor Foreman's 85th birthday and the 50th anniversary of Cathedral of Faith to thank him and his family for their many gifts and contributions to the community of San Jose, and I wish him many more healthy, happy and blessed years.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE U.S. HOUSE STAFFER, ALYSON ROSE SINGFIELD

JANUARY 24, 1958–APRIL 7, 2015

BELOVED MOTHER, STEPMOTHER, DAUGHTER, GRANDMOTHER, SISTER, AUNT, COUSIN, FRIEND, DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable woman, a dedicated public servant who touched the lives of thousands of my constituents, and my life-long friend, the late Alyson Rose Singfield, who died on April 7, 2015 after a courageous battle with breast cancer at the much too young age of 57-years old.

Alyson was the beloved mother of Hope Lynn Stevenson, Tommy Stevenson and Earl Johnson.

She was a caring stepmother.

She was the loving daughter of Rose and the late Waldorf Singfield.

She was a proud grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend to many.

Her death was a huge loss for me, my staff, and for the St. Louis community that Alyson loved and served so well for many years.

As my Community Outreach Director, Alyson brought her immense talent, creativity and dedication to work every day.

She helped create and coordinate outstanding programs like my Congressional Youth Cabinet, the Congressional Art Competition, my Congressional Internship Program and many others.

She was also my personal representative on the Regional Health Commission.

Alyson also served on the Board of Directors of the Betty Jean Kerr People's Health Centers, one of our nation's most outstanding Federally Qualified Health Centers.

My thoughts and prayers are with Alyson's wonderful family and her many friends at this painful hour.

Alyson's legacy of love, service, and her courageous spirit will always remain in our hearts.

She will never be forgotten.

May God bless her with perfect peace and eternal rest, and may he bless all who mourn her with strength, faith and renewed determination to continue the good works that she established.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members of Congress to join me in honoring the memory of Alyson Rose Singfield for her legacy of duty, honor, integrity, compassion, faith and dedicated service to the citizens of Missouri's 1st Congressional District, the U.S. House of Representatives and the United States of America.

BRIAN RERICH'S ESSAY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in

the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Brian Rerich attends Alvin High School in Alvin, Texas. The essay topic is: in your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

Government holds a power constitutionally given to those who represent the people, for the people, in order to make decisions on the people's behalf to protect rights of life, liberty, and property as stated by the Founding Fathers. The foundation of all governments are based around the concept of united groups banning together to protect each other or their own property from other groups of the uncivilized, leading to formations of countries with ideologies reflecting the ideas or aggressions on which they were founded regardless of governmental nature.

Philosophically a government's role in everyday life should be to fulfill its duty of creating, and enforcing laws which protect the people and their rights while having their best interests at heart. Government's should also terminate those that violate those rights and laws or cause aggression to the people, given that the punishment is just and fair from prison to military action, even if it is members of the regime that must be terminated. However the government should remain checked and balanced to ensure that it is constantly protecting and representing the people. It is not the government's job to regulate or judge every aspect of a person's life, but to safeguard it, even if it means defending a person from themselves in some cases. As stated in The Declaration of Independence, "Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their Safety and Happiness", the only thing the government is required to do is help the people it governs. The Government has a responsibility just as the people who give it power do. They must protect and serve with integrity and distinction for the betterment of society and humanity. This ensures progression, protection, unity, and equality for all, preserving that which is the fabric of America, as well as what was sewed into it during its founding.

HONORING CHARLES TILLMAN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mr. Charles Tillman a native of Brookhaven, Mississippi. Mr. Charles Tillman earned his Bachelor's degree in Business Education from Alcorn State University and his Master's degree in Guidance and Counseling from the University of Southern California.